

Multiple Choice Questions

Defining Deviance

1. Which of the following statements is (are) true?
 - A. the sociological definition of deviance stresses social context, not individual behavior
 - B. the sociological definition of deviance recognizes that not all behaviors are judged similarly by all groups and that some groups have the power to judge behaviors as deviant more than other groups
 - C. the sociological definition of deviance recognizes that established rules and norms are socially created, rather than morally decreed or individually imposed
 - D. all of the above

2. Sociologists would consider crime to be a form of _____ deviance.
 - A. informal
 - B. formal
 - C. situational
 - D. more information is necessary to categorize this type of deviance

3. Sociologists would categorize body piercing as a form of _____ deviance.
 - A. informal
 - B. formal
 - C. situational
 - D. more information is necessary to categorize this behavior

4. From a sociological perspective, deviance:
 - A. originates in society, not in individuals
 - B. is an adaptation to the social structures in which people live
 - C. needs to be responded to by making changes in society
 - D. all of the above

5. _____ is a theoretical perspective that interprets all parts of society, including those that may seem dysfunctional as contributing to the stability of the whole.
 - A. Functionalism
 - B. Conflict theory
 - C. Symbolic interaction
 - D. Social exchange theory

Chapter 7

6. “Deviance is a learned behavior, reinforced through group membership.” This statement most closely reflects:
 - A. functionalism
 - B. symbolic interaction theory
 - C. conflict theory
 - D. feminist theory

7. “Dominant classes control the definition of and sanctions attached to deviance.” This statement most closely reflects:
 - A. functionalism
 - B. symbolic interaction theory
 - C. conflict theory
 - D. feminist theory

8. Durkheim believed that the causes of suicide were:
 - A. rooted in psychological stress
 - B. to be found in social factors
 - C. to be found in individual matters
 - D. the direct result of emotional stress

9. All of the following are considered to be forms of deviance by sociologists, except:
 - A. mental illness
 - B. social stigmas
 - C. substance abuse
 - D. religious affiliation

10. Merton’s structural strain theory traces the origins of deviance to:
 - A. anomie
 - B. individual matters (e.g., emotional stress)
 - C. the tension caused by the gap between cultural goals and the means people have to achieve those goals
 - D. a weakening of a person’s (or group’s) attachment to social bonds